

### GEIDEL TELLS HIS OWN STORY AND MAKES CHARGES AGAINST THE MAN HE KILLED.

Cross-examined Closely as to Why He Took the Chloroform With Him and Heated in His Answer—Can't Tell Why There Were No Signs of Fight.

Paul Geidel went on the stand in his own defense yesterday in General Sessions and told how he killed William H. Jackson, a guest at the Iroquois Hotel, on the evening of July 29. Geidel wore the new clothes and shoes that he bought with the money obtained by pawning Mr. Jackson's watch. James A. Cleary of counsel for the defense said that there were twelve witnesses to be called and that it was likely the case would last until Thursday.

Geidel, tall, well and unimpaired, spoke in a low monotone and generally paused for an appreciable time before making a new sentence. When he told of his alleged relations with Mr. Jackson the pauses were marked. When he described the events immediately preceding the killing of Mr. Jackson his tale came with little apparent effort. Before he began his story Judge Crain warned him to talk distinctly and loudly, but the boy's voice barely reached the last juror.

He said that he was 17 years old and had lived in Hartford, Conn., until last May, when he came to New York. When he was 6 his father died and soon after that he was put in an orphan asylum for four years. Then he worked in a drug store for a while, tried to learn carpentry and finally got work in Hotel Iroquois in Hartford as a bellboy. When he came to New York he joined the Fifth-seventh street branch of the Y. M. C. A. He worked at the Breslin Hotel for a few weeks before going to the Iroquois, he said.

He had been at the Iroquois two weeks when he met W. H. Jackson. He frequently took ice water to Mr. Jackson and each time Mr. Jackson talked to him for a few moments. Once when he answered a call Mr. Jackson gave him a key to the room and asked him to drop in whenever he felt like it. Twice he used the key to see Mr. Jackson while he was out.

"The first time," said Geidel with deliberation, "he put his arm across my shoulder and asked me how I felt, how late I worked and what my hours were."

"The second time I answered a call for ice water. He asked me to sit down and keep him company for a while. He gave me some cigars and offered me a drink of whiskey. He told me he had taken a liking to me and would like to help me. He took me through his rooms and showed me some of his pictures. He asked me if I didn't think they were nice looking girls. I told him I couldn't stay any longer, as they might want me downstairs. I said that I would try to come up."

"Two nights later I went up again. He told me to sit down and gave me cigars and whiskey. He said that he liked to have me come to see him."

In flat contradiction to the testimony given by his roommate, Patrick McGrane, Geidel said that he had been to the Iroquois to see Mr. Jackson on the Monday night preceding the murder. He left McGrane standing outside, he said, and walked upstairs to Mr. Jackson's room on the tenth floor. Mr. Jackson seemed glad to see him, he said. Before he went he asked Mr. Jackson for some money and was told to come the next night and he should have it. He said that he couldn't come the next night because he was working at Rogers', but that he would come Wednesday night. It was on Wednesday night that he killed Mr. Jackson.

Before he went there Wednesday night he heard his landlady, Mrs. Josephine Kane, talking about some chloroform she had bought to kill a puppy. He was curious to see what she brought it for. "Is it enough to kill a man?" I asked her," said Geidel, "not because I wanted to kill a man but because I wanted to see what she brought it for."

Geidel said that when he started to take the bottle back to the bathroom of the flat he put it in his pocket instead of on the shelf.

The chloroform part of the story he had told with some liveliness, but he was slow and painstaking when he began to tell of his trip to the next night. On the day night, the words came out more freely again when he told of going in through the basement and climbing the ten flights of stairs.

He entered Mr. Jackson's room with his key and found Mr. Jackson in the sitting room. Mr. Jackson was glad to see him, Geidel said, but said that he had no money for the money he had asked for. He followed the prisoner made serious charges against the man whom he is accused of murdering. He said that after some time when he felt faint or dizzy, Geidel wasn't sure which.

"I thought that he was asleep," said Geidel with some animation. "I put on my coat and took his watch, chain and cuff buttons out of his shirt. He woke up and cried 'You thief.' He took hold of me and shoved me under the bed. I tried to get away from him and struck him in the face. I only used my fists. I tried to push him away from me. After I struck him I noticed blood on the bed and there was a puddle of blood on the floor. I pushed him away finally and he fell on the floor. I was underneath him."

"He took me by the neck and tried to choke me, so I reached up and squeezed his throat. He gave me a few more blows and I came back and struck him with his fists four or five times. I struck him and he fell down. He struggled for a while on the floor. He fought and I moved his legs or anything, and became quiet again."

"I went into the bathroom and took the chloroform bottle and emptied it onto a cloth. I had the bottle in my pocket. I think, and then I went back into the bedroom and put the rag into Mr. Jackson's mouth. I turned out the light and went back downstairs. I left the door of the room open. I wanted to get out as soon as I could before he woke up, and I left the hotel by the main entrance."

Geidel told of pawning the watch and throwing away the cuff buttons and the purse in much the same fashion as McGrane had done for the prosecution. He said that so far as he could remember his statement at Police Headquarters was taken without warning him that it might be used against him.

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The place was again raided a month ago, when Benney Rosenthal was arrested for managing it.

The police suspect that somebody gave warning of yesterday's attack. They say that a white dress was seen in the room on the front entrance three men stood inside taunting them and escaped over the roofs of adjoining houses. Several warrants remain unserved.

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Smith had been on the stand before, but had said nothing about the destruction of the records. He was recalled following the testimony of Raymond McAnville, a clerk who claimed that he had made out fake records at Smith's direction. Those were at that time supposed to be duplicates of some that Smith said had been lost. Smith now throws the blame on Sullivan, alleging that he acted for that official.

Sullivan, with Smith and several other officials, visited the Atlantic branch one night in February, 1909, when the bank was in the hands of the Banking Department, and in going over the books found that two tickets crediting bonus transactions of \$500 each were issued. Nothing was done about the matter that night, but on the following morning, Smith says, he got word from Sullivan to credit the bonuses to the Atlantic branch. In the main office they had been credited to the Orr Contracting Company. Sullivan said, according to Smith: "I don't want the Orr Contracting Company to show up in this."

"I had very few minutes to consider the matter," Smith testified, "and a false sense of duty made me do as Sullivan told me. I called in Raymond McAnville and asked him to help. We went out and made out tickets on which bonuses had been credited and made out new tickets in their place purporting to represent the United American Realty Company and the Rothman Jones trading company."

"After I had made out tickets for several thousand dollars I called up Sullivan and told him what we had done. That was all," he said. "I don't know where the \$500 bonus I had got together \$1,300 and on the \$500 bonus I had got together only \$2,900. That's the best I can do. I told him all right, he said, 'let it go at that.'"

Smith said that Bank Examiner Safford was present while the tickets were being made out and that he thinks Safford looked him talking to Sullivan over the telephone. It was Safford, according to Smith, who left the safe open and told the janitor of the bank building to let Sullivan and Smith in. Sullivan made the nocturnal visit in February. The visit was made on the night before Bank Examiner Hayes investigated the bonus transactions. Sullivan said, according to Smith, and the others left between 10 and 11. It was in reference to this visit that another witness has testified to a large amount of money being taken away by Sullivan about the free use of a blue pencil.

Bank transactions in the Atlantic branch of the bank were carried on, Smith said, as if "Charles N. Smith" was a special account. "Sullivan told me," he testified, "to buy notes outright and charge a bonus. This bonus was credited to the account of the Atlantic branch. At the end of each month I would draw a check on that account to the order of Sullivan."

Smith told of an instance in which, he said, a man paid \$10 to borrow \$500. For these notes were not paid the bank suffered the loss. Another note for \$500 was given to Gilbert Elliott, who used it to buy securities. He said that he saw the bank, according to Randolph Hulsart, a real estate broker and friend of Elliott's. Elliott was one of the men who were arrested last night. Mr. Elliott did business with Sullivan. In a statement recently he defended Edward M. Grout and attacked the commission for the manner in which it conducted the probe.

Hulsart said that he had given a blank note to Elliott, who wanted to accommodate the bank with new security. "Now I regret this," he said, "and I am a modification of the bank." Hulsart alleged that Elliott said, "and we will take care of you in the matter." Hulsart was to have got the note back in a month and he completed when it was not returned. "I understood," he said, "that Elliott was doing this for Sullivan and Ashley. When I didn't get my note I told him not to worry, as the Banking Department had passed on the security collateral securing the original notes."

The bank closed on the night of the seizure. The note had been filled in for \$50,000 and James C. Cropley brought out the fact that it had been in the Union Bank throughout the Grout administration without being recorded. Mr. Elliott testified that he had taken up the matter with Grout.

A hurry occurred in the early part of the morning when John H. Sed, president of the Peoples Surety Company from 1908 to 1910, found fault with some of the positions held by Mr. Cropley and refused to let him to answer them. They had to do with a note for \$125,000. Sed said that the note was to secure the bank against loss in carrying a business which was in the hands of the company. He denied that he had realized a cent on the note.

Beany's Old Place Empty When Dougherty's Men Break In.

Deputy Police Commissioner Dougherty, Sergt. Kennel and ten plain clothes men raided the Sagamore Hotel at 152 West Forty-fifth street, opposite the Lyceum Theatre, yesterday afternoon. After pounding in the front entrance, which was guarded by two men, the raiders finally got in by a back door, to find the place deserted and most of the gambling paraphernalia removed. They captured two poker tables, an old racing chart and almost sixty chips, which were carefully taken away in a patrol wagon and the jeers of a crowd.

### NOTICE IS SERVED ON GROUT APPLICATION FOR ATTACHMENT TO BE MADE TO-MORROW.

It Granted It Will Be Up to Him Whether He Will Testify in Union Bank Probe or Risk the Consequences of Refusal—More Indictments May Be Found.

The Attorney-General yesterday signed his intention of applying on Wednesday to Justice Putnam in the Supreme Court in Brooklyn for a writ of attachment for Edward M. Grout, former president of the Union Bank. If this motion is granted a deputy sheriff will probably escort Mr. Grout to the next session of the Union Bank investigation, which will be held on Thursday, and then if he does not testify he may be committed for refusing. Notice of the intended motion was served yesterday on Mr. Grout and his counsel, Martin W. Littleton. Mr. Grout will be asked to testify as to the reorganization of the old Mechanics and Traders and its resumption of business as the Union Bank.

In the absence of Mr. Grout yesterday the inquiry turned back to the earlier part of the investigation when David A. Sullivan, now under indictment for forgery, was president. Charles N. Smith, who was manager of the Atlantic branch of the Mechanics and Traders in February, 1908, testified that he helped destroy certain records that year in order to save officials of the bank from the Grand Jury that was investigating the Sullivan administration. He had already made a voluntary statement about these matters to the District Attorney. This, it is believed